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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/617,980	07/10/2003	Edward A. Ramsden	M-15145 US	4887

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EXAMINER

CHANG, DANIEL D

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2819

DATE MAILED: 11/29/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/617,980	Applicant(s) RAMSDEN, EDWARD A.	
	Examiner Daniel D. Chang	Art Unit 2819	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 06 November 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 9-12 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3,5 and 13 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 4,6-8 and 14-20 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 06 November 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>7/10/03</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

Claim Objections

Claim 18 is objected to because of the following informalities: a claim must end with a period but a period is missing at the end of the claim 18. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1-3, 5, and 13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Agrawal et al. (US 5,042,004, "Agrawal", hereinafter).

Regarding claim 1, Agrawal discloses, in Figs 1 and 2, a programmable logic device comprising:

a programmable logic block (122) operable to provide logical outputs (output of 122) at its output terminals from logical inputs (128, 129, 140) received at its input terminals; and

a hardwired microsequencer (126, 200, 130, 240) coupled to the input and output terminals of the programmable logic block, the microsequencer operable to provide a sequence of logical inputs to the programmable logic block (via 340), at least part of the sequence determined by logical outputs received from the programmable logic block.

Regarding claim 2, Agrawal discloses, in Figs 1 and 2, that the programmable logic block comprises a programmable AND array (122) configured to provide a plurality of product terms (124) based upon a set of logical inputs (140) and a plurality of macrocells (162) operable to

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generate the logical outputs from the product terms.

Regarding claim 3, Agrawal discloses, in Figs 1 and 2, that the part of the set of logical inputs provided to the programmable logic block (via 340) by the microsequencer are derived from microinstructions executed by the microsequencer (126).

Regarding claim 5, Agrawal discloses, in Figs 1 and 2, that the microsequencer includes:
a memory (131) configured to store a set of microinstructions that include logical inputs provided to the programmable logic block (via 136 and 340); and

a program counter (133) coupled to the memory and configured to provide addresses (135) to the memory to select the microinstructions for execution, the program counter responsive to logical outputs received from the macrocells (via 132, 134, and 126).

Claim 13 is essentially the same in scope as apparatus claims 1-3 and are rejected similarly.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 9-12 are allowable over the prior art.

Claims 4, 6-8, and 14-20 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Daniel D. Chang whose telephone number is (571) 272-1801. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Michael J. Tokar can be reached on (571) 272-1812. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Daniel D. Chang
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2819

DANIEL CHANG
PRIMARY EXAMINER

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